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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Legislate Microsoft

Microsoft is a giant in the software industry, more than 20 times larger than the nearest competitor. They can not increase market share except through expansion into new and emerging high tech markets. This is a high stakes game and Microsoft is holding most of the cards. There is no way they won't stack the deck in their favour without government intervention. That is a fact, plain and simple.

First off, Windows must be open equally to all parties writing software for the platform. Microsoft developers of applications must not be allowed to have months (an eternity in high-tech) with the operating system before competitors get a crack at it.

Second off, the operating system must not be allowed to be tied to PC sales. All PC makers must be free to offer any or no operating system without fear of retaliation from Microsoft.

Third off, there should be transparent access to all Microsoft "features" in Windows upon installation and afterwards. The unsophisticated user has no idea how to turn off Microsoft sponsored "Favourites", for example. It often takes weeks to figure out how to turn off a "default" link.

There is obviously much more. But I think I've made the main points. Essentially, the operating system must not be tied to anything not directly related to turning the computer into an appliance.

Thanks for your attention.

Rob Ahad